

Preventing the occurrence and spread of aquatic weed infestations in South Carolina waters can save millions of public and private dollars each year in avoided control costs.



South Carolina Noxious Weed List

Alligatorweed Alternanthera philoxeroides Brazilian elodea Egeria densa Common reed Phragmites australis Eurasian watermilfoil Myriophyllum spicatum Hvdrilla * Hydrilla verticallata Purple loosestrife Lythrum salicaria Slender naiad Najas minor Water chestnut Trapa natans Water hvacinth Eichhornia crassipes Water lettuce Pistia stratiotes Water primrose Ludwigia hexapetala African oxygen weed * Lagarosiphon major Ambulia * Limnophila sessiltjlora Sagittaria sagittifolia Arrowhead * Arrow-leaved monochoria * Monochoria hastata **Duck-lettuce *** Ottelia alismoides Exotic bur reed * Sparganium erectum Giant salvinia * Salvinia molesta S. biloba, S. herzogii, S. auriculata Mediterranean caulerpa * Caulerpa taxifolia Melaleuca * Melaleuca quinquenervia Hygrophila polysperma Miramar weed * Pickerel weed * Monochoria vaginalis Mosquito fern * Azolla pinnata Rooted water hyacinth * Eichhornia azurea

ANACHARIS - WARNING!



What Is It? How Do I Identify It?

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS OR JUST NEED MORE INFORMATION CONTACT US AT:

http://www.dnr.state.sc.us/water/envaff/aquatic/index.html E-mail: pagec@dnr.sc.gov



Water spinach *

Wetland nightshade *

* Also on the Federal Noxious Weed List

Aquatic Nuisance Species Program 2730 Fish Hatchery Road West Columbia, SC 29172 Phone (803)755-2836

Ipomoea aquatica

Solanum tampicense



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The term "Anacharis", as used by commercial aquatic plant suppliers, includes a variety of oxygen plants that resemble the elodeas. Plants sold under this name include the true Elodeas and two species that are illegal to sell in South Carolina, Brazilian elodea (*Egeria densa*) and Hydrilla (*Hydrilla verticillata*). Hydrilla and Egeria grow abun-

Plant names used in commercial catalogues under Anacharis:

Anacharis densa Anacharis canadensis Egeria densa Egeria gigantica

dantly in our waterways and cause major ecological and water use problems. Millions of dollars have been spent to control the growth of these plants in South Carolinas lakes and rivers. These two species are included on the State Noxious Weed List and the State Plant Pest List as illegal to import, sell and distribute in South Carolina.

You can help reduce the potential for these aquatic weed problems by carefully purchasing and selling only true Elodeas. Please ask your supplier for the current scientific name of the plants sold as Anacharis, and refuse to purchase *Egeria densa* and *Hydrilla verticillata*.

These plants look very similar, so use the information below to help you identify them.

Comparison of Elodea, Egeria and Hydrilla

Elodea canadensis

- ♦ Smooth to the touch
- Serrulate leaf margins barely evident without magnification
- Lower midrib of the leaves smooth
- ◆ Staminate flowers 1/3 inch wide, pistillate flowers 1/6 1/4 inch wide
- Number of leaves per whorl about the same at branching and non-branching nodes
- ♦ Leaves in whorls of 3

Egeria densa

- ♦ Smooth to the touch
- ♦ Serrulate leaf margins barely evident without magnification
- ◆ Lower midrib of the leaves smooth
- ◆ Large, showy staminate flowers, 1/2 3/4 inch wide
- Number of leaves at branching nodes usually double the number at non branching nodes
- ♦ Leaves in whorls of 3-4

Hydrilla verticillata

- ♦ Rough to the touch
- Sharply toothed leaf margins, usually evident without magnification
- Usually 1-12 small, sharp teeth or spines on the lower midrib of the leaf
- ◆ Small, inconspicious white pistillate flowers, less than 1/4 inch wide
- Number of leaves per whorl usually about the same at branching and non branching nodes; however, they may be double
- ♦ Leaves in whorls of 3-8





How you can help!

Aquatic weed problems are caused primarily by boaters and fishermen unknowingly spreading aquatic weeds from one lake to another and homeowners disposing of water garden and aquarium plants in public waters and private ponds. You can help control the spread of nuisance aquatic plants by doing the following:

When you leave a body of water:

- ♦ Remove any visible mud, plants, fish or animals before transporting equipment.
- ♦ Eliminate water from equipment before transporting.
- ◆Clean and dry anything that comes into contact with water (boats, trailers, equipment, clothing, dogs, etc.).
- Never release plants, fish or animals into a body of water unless they came out of that body of water.
- ◆ Report aquatic weed problems in public waters to the Aquatic Nuisance Species Program, SCDNR (1-803-755-2836).



